Crow, Leis Big Winners At Saugus Speedway After Disqualifications

Auto Racing

By Tim Trepany
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Current points leader Larry Krieger was first across the finish line in the NASCAR Hobby Stock oval and figure 8 trophy dashes and in a figure 8 heat, and was second in the oval B and figure 8 mains Saturday night at Saugus Seedway, but his efforts still didn't gain him anything.

"I wasn't here tonight," Kreiger said.

The same can be said of Allen Boles and Canyon Country's Joe Barreras Jr. who raced to the checkered in the oval B and figure 8 mains, respectively.

The trio was disqualified after post-race inspections revealed they raced with illegal tires. All were caught using tires with a softer texture than allowed. Soft tire texture affords greater speeds.

So Kreiger, who used only one illegal tire — the left front — Barreras and Boles were stripped of any points or trophies they won. The trophies and points were awarded to racers who crossed the finish line behind them.

Rick Crow was one of the beneficiaries, crossing third in the figure 8 main behind Barreras and Krieger. It was Crow's first figure 8 main win.

"I consider it a third, but I'll take the first place trophy and first place points," Crow said. I'm happy with third the way the car is beat."

In the 20-lap oval B main, Lawrence Leis crossed third but was named winner when Boles and Krieger were disqualified. Leis was in the back of the pack for most of the race before moving into fourth on lap 12, then passing James Kusch on the next lap for third.

Leis also won a collision filled oval heat race with Terry Custer second. The major crash involved five cars and occurred when Sue Pittinato got sideways coming out of turn 4.

Pittinato spun into the side wall on the front straightaway, was hit by Krieger, then Brian Kelley. Nobody suffered any major injuries, but Pittinato was forced to drop out because of damage to her car.

(I was thinking), Oh no, not again," Pittinato said. "Something similiar to this happened a couple of weeks ago where you see it happen and can't do anything about it."

Shanon Flavin won the oval A main, with Ray Duff second, followed by Greg Van Grinsven and Newhall's Ray Maxon.

Van Grinsven started on the poll and held the lead until lap 16, when Flavin passed him. Duff took second on the next lap and battled the leader for first, but Flavin held him off for the win.

Tom Schmidt was first out of five cars in the 10-lap foreign stock main. Schmidt also won the foreign stock heat race.

Other winners on the night were; Van Grinsven (oval heat); Kusch (oval heat); and Duff (figure 8 heat, oval jalopy tropohy dash).